

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /050 W
-----088678 181612Z /17
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8393

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PASS OIF/NMFS/NOAA/DOC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, MX
SUBJECT: SHRIMP VESSEL CONSTRUCTION FOR MEXICO THROUGH
INTERAMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FUNDING

1. A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED AND SHELVED DURING ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION AND RESURFACED DURING PRESENT REGIME CALLED, IN PART, FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 74 SHRIMP VESSELS. REQUESTS FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VESSELS SENT OUT 2-3 MONTHS AGO IN COMPLIANCE WITH INTERAMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) REQUIREMENTS. ON INITIAL BID OPENING PRICE PER VESSEL WAS 15 TO 20 PERCENT HIGHER THAN ESTIMATED. CONSEQUENTLY, MEXICAN FISHERY COOPERATIVES, EVENTUAL RECIPIENTS OF VESSELS, WERE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT DEAL. BIDDERS WERE MEXICAN CONTROLLED YARDS AND EBRASA FROM BRAZIL. AT MEX DEPT FISHERIES BEHEST COOPS AGREED TO A LIMITED NUMBER OF VESSELS UNDER BID TERMS. A TOTAL OF 32 VESSELS FOR CONSTRUCTION AWARDED ASTILLEROS UNIDOS DEL PACIFICO, MAZATLAN; AND 12 TO EBRASA. REMAINING 30 LEFT OPEN FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE RENEGOTIATION.

2. DEPT FISHERIES OFFICIAL PRESENTLY DISCUSSING ISSUE WITH
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IDB WASHINGTON INCLUDING HOW TO HANDLE PROBLEM OF REMAINING 30 VESSELS. DEPT FISHERIES WOULD LIKE TO NEGOTIATE CONSTRUCTION OF VESSELS WITHOUT GOING THROUGH BIDDING PROCESS.

3. TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF 74 VESSELS WAS APPROX \$19 MILLION US, OR \$250 THOUSAND EACH. BIDS SHOWED CLOSE TO \$300 THOUSAND. US SHIPYARD DESCO MARINE INITIALLY VERY

INTERESTED IN BIDDING ON VESSELS BUT SPECIFICATIONS CALLED
FOR STEEL HULLS, WHICH PRECLUDED PARTICIPATION. DESCO
ONLY BUILDS WOODEN AND FIBERGLASS HULLS.

4. IT IS OPINED MEX FISHERY COOPS KNOW THAT SHRIMP
VESSELS ARE AVAILABLE IN U.S. AT LOWER PRICE AND WILL TRY
TO GET APPROVAL TO IMPORT. THIS APPROVAL NOT LIKELY OWING
TO FINANCING DIFFICULTIES. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, DEVELOPMENT BANKS, FISHING BOATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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